

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

SAJ-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 413

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY, MAY 22

1. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENNA MEETING. PRAVDA REPORTS GROMYKO ON ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW CHARACTERIZED MEETING AS CONSTRUCTIVE AND USEFUL. IN A PUBLIC LECTURE MAY 21 A NOVOSTI POLITICAL OBSERVER SAID THAT MEETING HAD LED TO AGREEMENT ON "MANY ASPECTS" OF THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, AND THAT "GENEVA WILL BRING U.S. AND SOVIET POINTS OF VIEW EVEN CLOSER." END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED BILATERAL. IZVESTIYA EXPERT ON THE U.S. V. OSIP OV

WRITES IN THAT PAPER AT LENGTH ON EFFECTS OF RECENT WORLD EVENTS ON AMERICAN PERCEPTION OF DETENTE, POSING AS STARTING POINT FOR DISCUSSION U.S. QUESTION "WHERE WAS DETENTE WHEN DANANG FELL?" SAYS PRESENT CAMPAIGN TO CONFUSE U.S. PUBLIC ON DETENTE BY USING SUCH QUESTIONS IS MOST EXTENSIVE IN RECENT TIMES. QUOTES NYT THAT U.S. CANNOT TURN WHEEL OF HISTORY BACK, AND WASHINGTON POST THAT RECENT SETBACKS NO CAUSE FOR DESPONDENCY ON GENERAL COURSE OF U.S. DIPLOMACY. OPPONENTS OF DETENTE (LENGTHY LIST OF NAMES INCLUDES SCHLESINGER) REFUSE TO UNDERSTAND, OSIPOV WRITES, THAT DETENTE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT REGIMES LIKE LON NOL OR THIEU WILL SURVIVE NO MATTER WHAT; DETENTE IS NO "ROADBLOCK" ON THE WAY TO "NATIONAL" AND "SOCIAL" LIBERATION. FURTHER, DETENTE IS NO BLESSING BESTOWED UPON THE EAST BY THE WEST, BUT IS RATHER THE SOLE VIABLE ALTERNATIVE FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. OTHER COVERAGE ON U.S. INCLUDES PRAVDA REPORT ON CHARGES OF BRIBERY AGAINST U.S. FIRMS IN OVERSEAS DEALINGS AND PROMINENT REPORT ON FAILURE OF TITAN 3C TO ACHIEVE ORBIT. RED STAR CARRIES A PHOTO OF U.S. AND SOVIET ASTRONAUTS INSPECTING BAIKONUR.

3. MIDDLE EAST. TASS ACCOUNT OF PRESIDENT FORD'S INTERVIEW WITH THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS (PRAVDA) REPORTS THAT HE DID NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF RENEWING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY," WHICH TASS DEFINES AS CALLING FOR ACCEPTANCE OF PARTIAL MEASURES SEPARATE FROM A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM AS A WHOLE. TASS ADDS THAT PRESIDENT ALSO SAID THE U.S. MAY PROPOSE A SOLUTION ON A BROAD BASIS. A BEIRUT-DATELINED TASS STORY ON PALESTINIAN-LEBANESE CLASHES PORTRAYS THE PALESTINIANS AS VICTIMS OF "RIGHTIST PROVOCATIONS."

4. CYPRUS. IZVESTIYA HAS A LONG REVIEW OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT L. KORYAVIN. THE ARTICLE REHASHES THE STANDARD SOVIET CATECHISM ABOUT NATO DESIGNS ON THE ISLAND AND THE ALLIANCE'S COMPLICITY IN THE JULY 1974 COUP. HOWEVER, KORYAVIN SINGLES OUT THE U.S. FOR UNCHARACTERISTIC ATTENTION BY ALLEGING THAT DEAN ACHESON HAD A PLAN, WHICH KORYAVIN CLAIMS IS STILL IN EXISTENCE, TO PARTITION THE ISLAND FOR THE SAKE OF NATO'S STABILITY.

5. VIETNAM. PRAVDA AND OTHER MORNING PAPERS FRONT-PAGE A MESSAGE OF GREETINGS FROM BREZHNEV TO THE SOVIET-DRV FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY. THE MESSAGE STRESSES THE HISTORICAL BONDS BETWEEN THE TWO PEOPLES, SAYING THAT THEY HAVE STOOD TOGETHER FOR THIRTY YEARS "AGAINST THE COMMON ENEMY." THE PAPERS ALSO CARRY THE SUPREME SOVIETS' AWARDED OF THE ORDER OF PEOPLE'S FRIENDSHIP TO THE FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY.

6. MAYAGUEZ. TWO DAYS AFTER REPORTING IT IN ENGLISH TASS, THE SOVIET LABOR UNION NEWSPAPER TRUD FINALLY CARRIES THE TEXT OF THE HARSH WFTU STATEMENT AGAINST THE U.S. MAYAGUEZ OPERATION. THE MESSAGE HAS NOT BEEN CARRIED ELSEWHERE, AND ITS PUBLICATION IN TRUD REPRESENTS THE LOWEST PLAUSIBLE LEVEL OF ENDORSEMENT.

7. KOREA. PRAVDA CARRIES A COMMENTARY BY V. RAZAVAYEV DENOUNCING ALLEGED REPRESSIVE MEASURES BY THE SOUTH KOREAN REGIME. THE ARTICLE DESCRIBES SEOUL'S ALLEGED CONCERN ABOUT THE "THREAT FROM THE NORTH" AS A PRETEXT, SINCE NORTH KOREA IS PLEDGED TO "PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION" BE DEMOCRATIC MEANS -- A POSITIVE WHICH MOSCOW FULLY SUPPORTS, SAYS PRAVDA. END UNCLASSIFIED.
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